



Growth of the CWMA Concept in the U.S.

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Agenda

- Definition
- Characteristics
- Similarities and Differences
 - Geographic
 - Organizational
 - Participation
- Conclusions

New Definition

- A partnership of federal, state, and local government agencies, tribes, individuals, and various interested groups to manage noxious weed or invasive plants in a defined area.

Endorsed by : The Western Weed Coordinating
Committee and CIPM

Characteristics

- Defined geographical area distinguished by a common geography, weed problem, community, climate, political boundary or land use.
- Involvement or representation of the majority of landowners and natural resource managers in the defined area
- Steering committee
- Commitment to cooperation
- Comprehensive plan that addresses the management or prevention of one or more noxious weeds or invasive plants

Geographic Similarities

- State noxious weed laws – East mostly ag weeds
- Extension Weed Specialists
- University research
- Federal and State agencies very involved

Geographic Differences

- Land ownership
- Population density
- County weed districts
- County Weed Coordinator position (focal point)
- State Weed Coordinator
- Western Weed Coordinating Committee
- Weed Management Associations
- State funded CWMA grant programs
- History of land and water issue partnerships

Types of Organizations

- Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA)
- County Weed Districts (CWD)
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD)
- Watershed Associations (WA)
- Lake or River Associations (LRA)
- Exotic Pest Plant Councils (EPPC)
- Invasive Plant Councils (IPC)
- Task Forces (TF)

Organization Structure

Factor	CWMA	CWD	SWCD	WA	LRA	EPPC	IPC	TF	
Coordinators									
County Weed Supt	x	x							
NGO								x	
State/Local Agency	x		x			x	x		
University/Extension								x	
Private Citizen				x	x				
Geographic Focus									
Watershed	x			x	x			x	
County		x	x						
State						x	x		
Region						x			

Organization Structure

Factor	CWMA	CWD	SWCD	WA	LRA	EPPC	IPC	TF	
MOU	X								
Management Plan	X			X	X			X	
Accept Funding	X	X	X	X	X			X	
Education & Outreach	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Legislative Mandate	X	X	X				X		
Initiate Control Projects	X	X		X	X			X	
Project Focus									
Invasive Species	X	X				X	X	X	
Environmental				X	X				
Conservation			X						

Participation

Factor	CWMA	CWD	SWCD	WA	LRA	EPPC	IPC	TF	
Federal Agencies	X	X	X			X	X	X	
State Agencies	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
Counties	X	X	X		X			X	
Municipalities	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
NGO's	X	X				X	X	X	
Private Landowners	X		X	X	X			X	
Foundations	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
Land Trusts	X	X				X	X		
Corporations						X	X	X	
University/Extension	X	X				X	X	X	

Summary

- CWMA
 - Natural coordinator position (west)
 - Watershed focus
 - Diverse membership
- CWD
 - Natural coordinator position (west)
 - County focus
 - Diverse membership
- SWCD
 - Large watershed issues
 - Conservation focus
 - Diverse membership

Summary

- WA
 - Mostly local focus
 - Mostly private landowners
 - Invasive control is not a primary focus
- LRA
 - Mostly local focus
 - Mostly private landowners
 - Invasive control is not a primary focus
- EPPC / IPC
 - State / regional – educational focus
 - Diverse membership
 - Sharing invasive species information is a primary focus
 - Little on the ground coordination

Summary

- TF
 - Mostly local focus
 - Invasive control is a primary focus
 - Diverse membership

Conclusions

- There are eastern organizations that already fulfill many of the functions of CWMA's
- These organizations could become CWMA's or could establish committees to develop CWMA's
- Focus and membership varies
- Ability to initiate on the ground projects varies
- Identifying and funding the coordinator position is the challenge